

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **More than \$500,000 in funding relief provided to Indiana humanities organizations through CARES Grants**

*Grants provided by Indiana Humanities with funds from CARES Act*

INDIANAPOLIS (May 27, 2020)—Nonprofit organizations that provide public humanities programming to Hoosiers across the state will receive more than \$500,000 in operating support to help with funding relief due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Indiana Humanities awarded CARES Grants to 74 organizations, from Mishawaka to Milan. Awards range from \$1,000 to \$15,000, depending on the size of the organization's budget. Organizations in the 7th Congressional District will receive \$110,000.

The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) provided the funding to Indiana Humanities as part of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act economic stabilization plan appropriated by the U.S. Congress.

“The CARES Act includes provisions to help small businesses and Hoosiers in many industries, including those employed by public humanities such as cultural sites, libraries, and museums. The funds appropriated for Indiana Humanities CARES Grants will help support these programs through this difficult time,” said Senator Mike Braun.

CARES Grant recipients from Indiana's 7th Congressional District include:

Benjamin Harrison Presidential Site – Indianapolis (\$7,500)

Brick Street Poetry – Beech Grove (\$5,000)

Crown Hill Heritage Foundation – Indianapolis (\$7,500)

Freetown Village – Indianapolis (\$5,000)

Indiana Historical Society – Indianapolis (\$15,000)

Indiana Medical History Museum – Indianapolis (\$5,000)

Indiana State Museum Foundation – Indianapolis (\$15,000)

Indianapolis Film Project – Indianapolis (\$7,500)

Indy Reads Books – Indianapolis (\$7,500)

Irvington Historical Society – Indianapolis (\$5,000)

The Children's Museum of Indianapolis – Indianapolis (\$15,000)

The Indianapolis Public Library Foundation – Indianapolis (\$15,000)

“We are grateful for Indiana Humanities support and confidence in our work, especially in these challenging times. The pandemic has been difficult for us as a museum, national historic landmark, and vital civic-engagement space in terms of being able to engage directly with our audience and community,” said Charlie Hyde, president and CEO of the Benjamin Harrison Home. “Support from Indiana Humanities CARES grant will be instrumental in allowing us to hire part-time docents so that we can continue to meet our educational mission, abide by public health guidelines, and facilitate the gradual return of our corps of volunteers on their timetable based on their own feelings of safety.”

“I'm extremely pleased that these organizations have received much-needed grants through the CARES Act, which I was honored to support,” said Congressman Andre Carson. “Humanities institutions are vital to

the culture, history and quality of life in our state, and we must ensure they are protected during this crisis. The grants provided will help them remain strong, for us and for future generations of Hoosiers.”

Requests for the grants exceeded \$1.3 million, and the 186 applicants expressed \$11.7 million in total losses to date, as well as projected losses of \$44.9 million through Sept. 30.

“We are pleased to have awarded grants to groups large and small, carrying out a variety of programming, in each congressional district and in 48 of our 92 counties,” said Doran Moreland, Indiana Humanities board chair. “Because of the immense need we had to turn down many organizations that are doing good work, including some of our close partners. The grant committees put great care into the review, weighing a number of factors such as public humanities focus, need, audiences served, and geography.”

The grants do not require a match and will be distributed to the organizations in June. Organizations with budgets less than \$250,000 received up to \$5,000; organizations with budgets from \$250,000 to \$999,999 received \$7,500; organizations with budgets from \$1 million to \$2,499,999 received \$10,000 and organizations with budgets of \$2.5 million or more received \$15,000.

“These CARES grants will help meet immediate needs at cultural institutions around the state, allowing Indiana museums, archives, libraries and historical societies to maintain vital operations,” said NEH Chairman Jon Parrish Peede. “Thank you to Indiana Humanities for their swift and judicious distribution of CARES Act funding to the many humanities organizations suffering financial distress during the pandemic.”

To view an interactive map, an infographic, and more information about the grant recipients, visit [www.IndianaHumanities.org/INCares](http://www.IndianaHumanities.org/INCares).

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### **About Indiana Humanities**

Indiana Humanities connects people, opens minds and enriches lives by creating and facilitating programs that encourage Hoosiers to think, read and talk. Learn more at [www.indianahumanities.org](http://www.indianahumanities.org).

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